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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3651  
Dkt. 1461/65353

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Tamaki KANEKO  
Serial No. : 09/896,737 Group Art Unit: 3651  
Date Filed : June 29, 2001 Examiner: P. Mackey  
For : SHEET FOLDING AND BINDING APPARATUS AND METHOD

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
**BOX AF**  
Washington, D.C. 20231

1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, N.Y. 10036

**RECEIVED**  
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**GROUP 3600**

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated February 14, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 20, 30, 31, 34 and 35 as follows:

1. (Amended) A binding apparatus, comprising:

*BI*  
a receiving device configured to receive a sheet from outside and convey the sheet;

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

*Richard F. Jaworski*  
Richard F. Jaworski  
Reg. No. 33,515

April 24, 2003

Date